

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-17 are currently pending in this application. Claims 14 and 18-26 have been withdrawn as being directed to non-elected species.

Election/Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has stated that the application contains nine patently distinct species illustrated in Figs. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 20, 21, 23 and 24. Further, the Examiner has indicated that no claims are generic.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.142-1.143, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species A corresponding to Fig. 1 without traverse. This species is readable on claims 1-13 and 15-17.

Applicants provide the following listing of Species and claims readable thereon:

Species	Figs.	Claims readable thereon
Species A	Fig. 1	1-13 and 15-17
Species B	Fig. 7	1-13 and 15-17
Species C	Fig. 8	
Species D	Fig. 14	
Species E	Fig. 15	
Species F	Fig. 20	
Species G	Fig. 21	18-25
Species H	Fig. 23	18-25
Species I	Fig. 24	1-13, 15-21 and 26

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-13 and 15-17 are generic to Species A, B and I. Species B is a flow chart showing the operation of the optical disc of Fig. 1 (Species A). The only difference between Species A and Species I is the addition of a level regulator 43 and a stray light regulator 46. All of the elements set forth in claims 1-13 and 15-17 are present in all three embodiments. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the finding of no generic claims.

Applicants also hereby reserve the right to pursue Species B through I and the subject matter associated therewith in a divisional and/or continuation application(s). Applicants further reserve the right to amend withdrawn claims 14 and 18-26 so that they depend on elected species.

Prompt examination of the present application is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the present Application as amended, including claims 1-13 and 15-17, are in condition for substantive consideration, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

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